JOB SERVICE

Washington State
Employment Security Department

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Washington Labor Market

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HIGHLIGHTS

Unemployment Rate
At Five Year Low

Total unemployment in Washington State fell from 175,600 and 8.3 percent of the labor force in July to 161,700 and 7.7 percent in August. August marked the first time since 1980 that the jobless rate in the state was below 8.0 percent. Unemployment normally declines between July and August. Many school-age youth who enter the job market at the end of the school year fail to land a job drop and out of the labor market. Since they are no longer actively seeking work, they are not counted as unemployed. The July-August decline this year, however, was greater than normal and the seasonally adjusted rate fell from 8.5 to 8.1 percent.

	Aug. 1985* (Prel.)	July 1985* (Rev.)	Aug. 1984
Civilian Labor Force	2,106,200	2,115,400	2,055,200
Total Employment	1,944,500	1,939,800	1,875,800
Total Unemployment	161,700	175,600	179,400
State Unemployment Rate	7.7	8.3	8.7
National Civilian Unemployment Rate	6.9	7.4	7.3

*These data represent alternative estimates of labor force conditions developed by the State Employment Security Department. They are more comparable with data released in previous years than are the official Bureau of Labor Statistics' estimates developed for federal program purposes. (Data in this table are not seasonally adjusted.)

Total Employment Up 4,700

Total employment rose 4,700 over the month as a decline in seasonal agricultural work was more than offset by growth in nonfarm employment. The raspberry, strawberry, green pea and cherry harvests were completed in July, but thousands of workers remained employed on farms during August harvesting blueberries, pears, peaches, tomatoes, corn, squash, melons and other vegetables. September will see farm employment in Eastern Washington expand with the beginning of the apple harvest.

More Nonfarm Jobs

Employment in the nonagricultural industries rose 9,400 in August with 3,700 of the increase in manufacturing. A seasonal expansion in food processing provided most of the new manufacturing jobs followed by further growth in aerospace. In the nonmanufacturing industries, construction payrolls continued to advance with ideal weather for outdoor work, while retail trade and service employment expanded with tourist business at a peak summer level. Back-to-school sales provided an additional boost at retail outlets.

Tourists Create Jobs

68,700 New Jobs

A comparison of labor force statistics this August with August 1984 reflects to a strong and vigorous economy despite weakness in some manufacturing industries, specifically lumber, aluminum, and shipbuilding. Total employment in the state was up 68,700 over the year at mid-August. Nonagricultural wage and salary employment alone rose nearly 52,000 over the twelve-month period. The number of manufacturing jobs increased 4,900 with a gain of 9,100 jobs in aerospace more than offsetting losses of 2,900 in lumber, 700 in aluminum and 2,200 in "other transportation equipment"--mainly shipbuilding. Major growth in the nonmanufacturing industries was centered in retail trade (up 12,000), and services--hotels, medical services, business services, amusements, etc.--(up 16,300). Other expansions included public education (up 5,000) and construction (up 4,900).

Local Area Developments

Unemployment declined in nearly all counties of the state between July and August. Exceptions were the Wenatchee area (Chelan and Douglas counties) and Okanogan County. The completion of the cherry harvest and related processing activity resulted in unemployment moving up in August in both areas.

Seattle Leads Expansion

The unemployment rate in the Seattle Metropolitan Area of 6.4 percent in August was well below the state (7.7) and national (6.9) rates. Nearly 60 percent of the state's job growth over the year has occurred in the Seattle area largely due to the expansion in aerospace. Despite a gain of nearly 40,000 jobs over the year, however, unemployment in the Seattle area dropped only 4,600 because the employment expansion attracted new residents.

Unemployment has declined in most areas of the state over the year, but in some cases the reduction resulted partially from out-migration. In fact, 12 of the state's 39 counties lost population between 1984 and 1985. The largest drop occurred in Benton County where the population fell from 107,700 to 105,200. Benton County's population peaked at 113,400 in 1981 when work was under way on three nuclear plants. The area's population has declined every year since.

MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

Canneries added 1,500 seasonal workers in August to help process peaches, pears, corn, beans, potatoes and other vegetables. Potato digging and processing, however, was slow because of depressed prices.

Boeing Faces Stiff Competition

The aerospace expansion continued with employment moving up 900 in August. Boeing is facing increasing competition in the commercial airliner industry from Airbus Industrie. The European firm has already doubled its 1984 sales. The strength of the dollar relative to

European currencies gives Airbus a major advantage. Nonetheless, Boeing's aircraft orders for the first three quarters of 1985 totaled 156 compared with 133 for the corresponding period in 1984. The latest major order was for 19 Boeing 737-300s from Piedmont Airlines of Winston-Salem, North Carolina. The order was worth $500 million.

Defense Business Big at Boeing

While competition heats up in the commercial aircraft field, Boeing's defense business is growing. Government business accounted for 40 percent of the firm's sales last year, up from 17 percent in 1980. Prime defense contract awards to Boeing totaled $4.6 billion in 1984, making the firm the nation's fifth largest defense contractor.

Fabricated Metals Cooking

Fabricated metals employment rose 400 in August with employment up at firms producing structural steel and a seasonal expansion at firms manufacturing wood stoves. In pulp and paper, settlement of a labor dispute saw 300 workers return to work. Partially offsetting the gain,

Layoff In Instruments

instruments dropped 200 because of a layoff at the John Fluke Manufacturing Company in Everett. The loss was related to the nationwide slowdown in the computer and semi-conductor industries.

Aluminum Prices Depressed

Aluminum employment was unchanged between July and August, but the price of primary aluminum continued to fall. The price in September was 44 cents a pound, down from 55 cents last December. New orders for aluminum have been increasing and the supply of aluminum has declined because of production cutbacks, but the reduction in inventories has not been sufficient to prop up prices yet. Inventories have dropped 5 percent this year. According to one analyst, a further 5 percent reduction will be required to increase the current price.

Layoffs Expected At Weyerhaeuser

Lumber employment was also unchanged between July and August, but down 2,900 over the year. Reorganization of The Weyerhaeuser Company is expected to result in layoffs at the firm's headquarters in the Tacoma area. A number of divisions will be consolidated in the reorganization, resulting in job duplications. Layoffs are expected this fall as the reorganization takes effect. The company's employment in Washington was reported to be 10,398, compared with a peak of 12,266 in 1981. Explaining the permanent closure of some Weyerhaeuser plywood plants, a company spokesman said employee co-ops and non-union mills can produce plywood at a cost 40 percent less than large manufacturers with union contracts.

Tacoma Boat Files For Bankruptcy

The Tacoma Boatbuilding Company filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy in late September. The firm is one of Tacoma's largest manufacturing employers. The move could provide the firm time to reorganize its financial structure,

redirect its business, and allow it to become profitable again. Meanwhile, the company expects to complete its existing contracts which include two gunboats for the Royal Thai Navy, two toxic waste incinerator ships, and several submarine tracking vessels for the Navy.

NONMANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

Construction - Going Up

Employment in the building trades added 1,400 in August and was up 4,900 over the year. Building permit data for Washington State collected by F. W. Dodge show an increase in permits in July and August for single-family houses. Cumulatively, however, the number for the first eight months of this year is down 6 percent from the comparable period in 1984. Offsetting the lower totals for single family homes, the number of dwelling units in apartment buildings for which permits were issued so far this year were up 29 percent from the first eight months of 1984.

The major expansion in construction work over the year, however, has been in commercial buildings and street-highway-bridge work. The cumulative value of permits issued for commercial buildings this year was up 31 percent year-to-year, while the value of work on street, highway, and bridge projects through August of 1985 was up 56 percent from the comparable period in 1984.

Tourist Business Up

Employment in retail trade rose 1,800 in August, while services payrolls advanced 2,000. A major factor in both gains was increasing tourist business. Nearly one-third of the gain in retail trade was at eating and drinking places. Other factors boosting retail trade payrolls were back-to-school shopping and the opening of a new shopping mall in Kitsap County. Over one-half of the increase in services was in amusement and recreation (carnivals, fairs, bowling, etc.) and at hotels and motels. Firms which provide temporary workers to other businesses also expanded in August, but employment at hospitals declined.

Fair Provides Temporary Jobs

Retail trade and service employment will also increase in September because of the opening of the Western Washington Fair in Puyallup. This fair is one of the largest in the nation and provides thousands of temporary jobs during its 17-day run.

NATIONAL CONTEXT

Protectionist Measures Would Have Mixed Impact On Jobs

Protectionist measures now before Congress are designed to prevent further loss of U.S. jobs by soaring imports of low-cost goods. This would help protect jobs in some of the state's manufacturing industries, at least in the short term. If these measures become law, however, they could also cost Washington State thousands of jobs in

other areas. Washington is the most dependent state in the nation on foreign trade because of the large volume of goods passing through its ports. Whether the goods are going to or coming from Japan and other Pacific Rim nations, foreign trade creates thousands of jobs in distributing and related activities. Washington State is also highly dependent on foreign markets for the sale of its logs, wheat, airplanes and other goods. Protectionist measures by the U.S. would likely trigger counter moves by foreign nations, restricting U.S. sales which could offset the jobs gained by limiting imports to the U.S.

In an effort to prevent a possible trade war resulting from protectionist measures, the U.S., West Germany, Japan, Britan and France have launched a program to force down the value of the dollar in relation to other currencies. If successful, it would make foreign goods more expensive in the U.S. and U.S. goods less expensive abroad, thus, improving the U.S. balance of trade. The plan involves coordinated central-bank sales of dollars in foreign-exchange markets in return for British, German, French and Japanese currencies.

Economic Indicators--Looking Up

The Index of Leading Economic Indicators rose 0.7 percent in both July and August, according to the U.S. Department of Commerce, to post its largest gains since February. Indicators contributing to the August rise in the Index were building permits, average manufacturing work week and manufacturers' new orders for consumer goods and materials.

Housing Start Up

National housing starts rose 6.2 percent in August, the largest increase in five months. Most of the gain, however, was in the construction of apartments which rose 12.4 percent. By contrast, starts on single-family houses were up only one percent.

Spending Higher Savings Down

The U.S. Commerce Department reported that spending rose 1.2 percent in August, the largest gain in nearly a year. Increased auto sales were responsible for a large part of the rise. Auto sales were also up in September, but are expected to fall in October because of higher prices for new models and the end of financing incentives. In addition, many analysts question whether the expansion in spending will continue because of slow growth in personal income. The spending gain in August came at the expense of savings. The personal savings rate fell to 2.8 percent, the lowest level since 1959--when the government began keeping monthly statistics on savings.

LABOR SURPLUS AREAS

The U.S. Department of Labor has designated "Labor Surplus Areas" for the Federal Fiscal Year beginning October 1, 1985 and ending September 30, 1986. Employers in labor surplus areas are eligible for preference in federal contract bids if they agree to perform at least 51 percent of the contract work within such areas.

The purpose of identifying labor surplus areas is to channel federal government procurement dollars into communities with high unemployment. All counties and cities, with populations of at least 50,000, are eligible for the classification provided their average unemployment rate has been above a certain level in the last two complete calendar years.

To be classified as a labor surplus area for the October 1, 1985 - September 30, 1986 period, an area needed an average unemployment rate of at least 10 percent for the 24-month period of January 1983 through December 1984. An exceptional circumstances provision, however, allows the U.S. Department of Labor to classify other areas as labor surplus areas if unemployment rises substantially because of recent developments such as plant closures, contract cancellations, natural disasters, and other unforeseen circumstances.

The following table identifies current labor surplus areas in Washington State.

LABOR SURPLUS AREAS
ELIGIBLE FOR FEDERAL PROCUREMENT PREFERENCE
FROM OCTOBER 1, 1985 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30, 1986

ELIGIBLE LABOR SURPLUS AREAS	CIVIL JURISDICTIONS INCLUDED
WASHINGTON STATE	
Adams County	Adams County
Benton County	Benton County
Chelan County	Chelan County
Clallam County	Clallam County
Clark County	Clark County
Columbia County	Columbia County
Cowlitz County	Cowlitz County
Douglas County	Douglas County
Everett City	Everett City In Snohomish County
Ferry County	Ferry County
Franklin County	Franklin County
Grant County	Grant County
Grays Harbor County	Grays Harbor County
Jefferson County	Jefferson County
Kittitas County	Kittitas County
Klickitat County	Klickitat County
Lewis County	Lewis County
Mason County	Mason County
Okanogan County	Okanogan County
Pacific County	Pacific County
Pend Oreille County	Pend Oreille County
Balance of Pierce County	Pierce County Less Tacoma City
Skagit County	Skagit County
Skamania County	Skamania County
Stevens County	Stevens County
Tacoma City	Tacoma City in Pierce County
Thurston County	Thurston County
Wahkiakum County	Wahkiakum County
Whatcom County	Whatcom County
Yakima County	Yakima County

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX

(All Items, Urban Consumers, 1967=100)

	INDEXES			PERCENT CHANGE Year Ending	
	Aug. 1985	July 1985	Aug. 1984	Aug. 1985	July 1985
U.S. City Average	323.5	322.8	313.6	+3.4	+3.6
Seattle-Everett	N/A	322.0	N/A	N/A	+2.4

AREA WAGE SURVEY REPORTS AVAILABLE FOR THE WALLA WALLA LABOR AREA AND WHATCOM COUNTY

The Wage Analysis Unit of the Labor Market and Economic Analysis Branch recently completed Occupational Wage Surveys for the Walla Walla Labor Area and Whatcom County. The survey reports present wage ranges and averages for clerical, managerial, professional, technical and general occupations. The reports are available on request from Labor Market and Economic Analysis, P.O. Box 46502, Seattle, Washington 98146. Phone (206) 764-6453.

NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE & SALARY WORKERS IN WASHINGTON STATE, PLACE OF WORK 1/

(In Thousands)

NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED	Aug. 1985 (Prel.)	Jul. 1985 (Rev.)	Aug. 1984 (Rev 4/)	Jul. 1984 (Rev 4/)	Numerical Change: Jul. 85 to Aug. 85	Numerical Change: Aug. 84 to Aug. 85
TOTAL NONAG. WAGE AND SALARY.	1,695.6	1,686.2	1,643.7	1,634.9	+9.4	+51.9
TOTAL MANUFACTURING.....	295.9	292.2	291.0	286.9	+3.7	+4.9
Durable Goods.....	203.5	202.1	200.3	198.8	+1.4	+3.2
Lumber & Wood Products....	38.5	38.5	41.4	41.7	0.0	-2.9
Furniture & Fixtures.....	3.1	3.1	3.3	3.3	0.0	-0.2
Stone Clay & Glass Prod...	6.6	6.4	6.8	6.6	+0.2	-0.2
Primary Metal Industries..	12.0	12.0	13.0	13.2	0.0	-1.0
Aluminum Prod.& Proc.....	7.8	7.8	8.5	8.4	0.0	-0.7
Fabricated Metal Prod.....	10.9	10.5	9.9	9.9	+0.4	+1.0
Machinery.....	27.5	27.5	27.9	27.7	0.0	-0.4
Machinery exc. Elect.....	15.5	15.5	16.3	16.1	0.0	-0.8
Electrical & Electronic..	12.0	12.0	11.6	11.6	0.0	+0.4
Transportation Equipment..	90.0	89.0	83.1	81.6	+1.0	+6.9
Aerospace.....	77.0	76.1	67.9	66.5	+0.9	+9.1
Other Transp. Equip.....	13.0	12.9	15.2	15.1	+0.1	-2.2
Instruments & Rel. Prod...	10.4	10.6	10.3	10.3	-0.2	+0.1
Misc. Manufacturing Ind...	4.5	4.5	4.6	4.5	0.0	-0.1
Nondurable Goods.....	92.4	90.1	90.7	88.1	+2.3	+1.7
Food & Kindred Products...	33.4 3/	31.6	33.2	31.0	+1.8	+0.2
Canned & Preserved Foods.	13.9	12.4	12.6	10.8	+1.5	+1.3
Apparel & Other Text.Prod.	6.4	6.3	6.4	6.3	+0.1	0.0
Paper & Allied Products...	16.5	16.2 3/	16.7	16.7	+0.3	-0.2
Printing & Publishing.....	17.0	17.1	16.7	16.6	-0.1	+0.3
Chemicals & Allied Prod...	11.5	11.4	10.3	10.3	+0.1	+1.2
Other Nondurable Goods 2/.	7.6	7.5	7.4	7.2 3/	+0.1	+0.2
MINING & QUARRYING.....	2.9	2.8	2.8	2.8	+0.1	+0.1
CONSTRUCTION.....	88.1	86.7	83.2	81.8	+1.4	+4.9
TRANS.& PUBLIC UTILITIES....	93.1	92.8	92.3	92.1	+0.3	+0.8
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE....	424.0	422.1	409.2	408.1	+1.9	+14.8
Wholesale Trade.....	106.6	106.5	103.8	104.1	+0.1	+2.8
Retail Trade.....	317.4	315.6	305.4	304.0	+1.8	+12.0
FIN. INS. & REAL ESTATE.....	98.2	98.0	95.8	95.8	+0.2	+2.4
SERVICES.....	369.6	367.6	353.3	351.8	+2.0	+16.3
GOVERNMENT.....	323.8	324.0	316.1	315.6	-0.2	+7.7
Federal.....	71.0	71.1	71.3	70.8	-0.1	-0.3
State & Local.....	252.8	252.9	244.8	244.8	-0.1	+8.0
Education.....	115.0	117.7	110.0	111.3	-2.7	+5.0
(WORKERS IN LABOR-MANAGEMENT DISPUTES).....	0.2	0.4	0.0	0.2	-0.2	+0.2

1/ Excludes proprietors, self-employed, members of armed forces, and private household employees. Includes all full- and part-time wage and salary workers receiving pay during pay period including the 12th of the month.

2/ Includes textile mill products, rubber and miscellaneous plastic products, petroleum refining and related products, and leather products.

3/ Excludes workers involved in labor-management disputes.

4/ Revised in May 1985 due to corrections involving Education. The 1983 and 1984 annual tables have been revised and are available.

Washington State
Employment Security Department
Labor Market and Economic Analysis Branch

RESIDENT LABOR FORCE AND EMPLOYMENT
IN WASHINGTON STATE AND LABOR MARKET AREAS

Date: September 26, 1985
Benchmark: 1984

(Not Seasonally Adjusted)

	August 1985 Preliminary 1/				July 1985 Revised 1/				August 1984 Revised			
	Labor Force	Employment	Unemployment	Unemp. Rate	Labor Force	Employment	Unemployment	Unemp. Rate	Labor Force	Employment	Unemployment	Unemp. Rate
Washington State Total	2,106,200	1,944,500	161,700	7.7	2,115,400	1,939,800	175,600	8.3	2,055,200	1,875,800	179,400	8.7
Bellingham MSA	53,700	49,500	4,200	7.8	54,700	49,800	4,900	9.0	50,000	45,200	4,800	9.6
Bremerton MSA	65,500	61,700	3,900	5.9	65,100	61,000	4,100	6.3	64,000	59,800	4,200	6.6
Olympia MSA	61,100	56,400	4,700	7.7	61,700	56,400	5,300	8.6	59,500	54,000	5,500	9.2
Seattle PMSA	950,000	889,400	60,600	6.4	951,500	886,800	64,700	6.8	915,000	849,800	65,200	7.1
Spokane MSA	159,300	147,700	11,600	7.3	160,000	147,700	12,300	7.7	156,700	144,800	11,900	7.6
Tacoma PMSA	196,000	179,600	16,400	8.4	196,000	178,600	17,400	8.9	190,300	172,700	17,600	9.2
Tri-Cities MSA 2/	71,400	65,200	6,200	8.7	72,100	64,800	7,300	10.1	72,400	62,700	9,700	13.4
Vancouver PMSA	95,300	87,000	8,300	8.7	95,300	86,500	8,800	9.2	92,200	84,000	8,200	8.9
Yakima MSA	86,800	76,200	10,600	12.2	88,500	76,500	12,000	13.6	86,600	75,400	11,200	12.9
Adams	7,250	6,540	710	9.8	7,430	6,590	840	11.3	7,140	6,390	750	10.5
Asotin	8,040	7,440	600	7.5	8,020	7,420	600	7.5	8,130	7,490	640	7.9
Clallam	18,900	17,090	1,810	9.6	19,370	17,060	2,310	11.9	19,960	17,680	2,280	11.4
Columbia	1,990	1,810	180	9.0	2,260	2,050	210	9.3	1,710	1,530	180	10.5
Cowlitz	32,440	28,580	3,860	11.9	32,990	28,800	4,190	12.7	32,630	28,900	3,730	11.4
Ferry	2,560	2,300	260	10.2	2,660	2,330	330	12.4	2,510	2,170	340	13.5
Garfield	1,170	1,110	60	5.1	1,210	1,140	70	5.8	1,210	1,130	80	6.6
Grant	23,860	21,430	2,430	10.2	24,010	20,990	3,020	12.6	23,230	20,450	2,780	12.0
Grays Harbor	28,580	25,740	2,840	9.9	28,820	25,690	3,130	10.9	29,800	25,550	4,250	14.3
Island	17,070	15,960	1,110	6.5	17,000	15,720	1,280	7.5	15,590	14,370	1,220	7.8
Jefferson	6,830	6,340	490	7.2	6,840	6,270	570	8.3	6,840	6,310	530	7.7
Kittitas	10,550	9,740	810	7.7	10,190	9,250	940	9.2	10,530	9,470	1,060	10.1
Klickitat	6,990	6,210	780	11.2	6,590	5,670	920	14.0	7,230	6,250	980	13.6
Lewis	23,250	20,790	2,460	10.6	23,840	20,900	2,940	12.3	23,960	21,040	2,920	12.2
Lincoln	4,640	4,460	180	3.9	4,610	4,400	210	4.6	4,570	4,390	180	3.9
Mason	11,910	11,030	880	7.4	12,150	11,030	1,120	9.2	10,950	9,940	1,010	9.2
Okanogan	14,940	12,490	2,450	16.4	14,960	12,600	2,360	15.8	16,240	13,370	2,870	17.7
Pacific	6,820	5,890	930	13.6	6,800	5,870	930	13.7	7,360	6,100	1,260	17.1
Pend Oreille	4,060	3,490	570	14.0	4,090	3,480	610	14.9	4,340	3,890	450	10.4
San Juan	4,940	4,740	200	4.0	4,790	4,570	220	4.6	4,750	4,560	190	4.0
Skagit	35,620	32,260	3,360	9.4	37,750	34,080	3,670	9.7	34,590	30,500	4,090	11.8
Skamania	2,710	2,360	350	12.9	2,750	2,370	380	13.8	2,560	2,180	380	14.8
Stevens	11,710	10,400	1,310	11.2	11,690	10,330	1,360	11.6	12,130	10,630	1,500	12.4
Wahkiakum	1,190	1,050	140	11.8	1,210	1,070	140	11.6	1,200	1,040	160	13.3
Walla Walla	25,900	24,250	1,650	6.4	25,970	24,280	1,690	6.5	25,080	23,340	1,740	6.9
Wenatchee Labor Area 3/	38,500	33,960	4,540	11.8	38,180	33,900	4,280	11.2	38,440	33,450	4,990	13.0
Whitman	14,720	14,330	390	2.6	14,440	14,000	440	3.0	15,710	15,220	490	3.1

1/ Estimates provided here are for use as an economic time-series. Official Bureau of Labor Statistics' estimates, which must be used for Federal program purposes, are available upon request.

2/ The Tri-Cities MSA encompasses Benton and Franklin Counties.

3/ The Wenatchee Labor Area encompasses Chelan and Douglas counties.

NOTE: Detail may not add due to rounding.

Washington State
Employment Security Department
Labor Market and Economic Analysis Branch

WASHINGTON STATE LABOR FORCE AND EMPLOYMENT
ESTIMATES FOR FEDERAL PROGRAM PURPOSES

September 24, 1985
Benchmark 1984

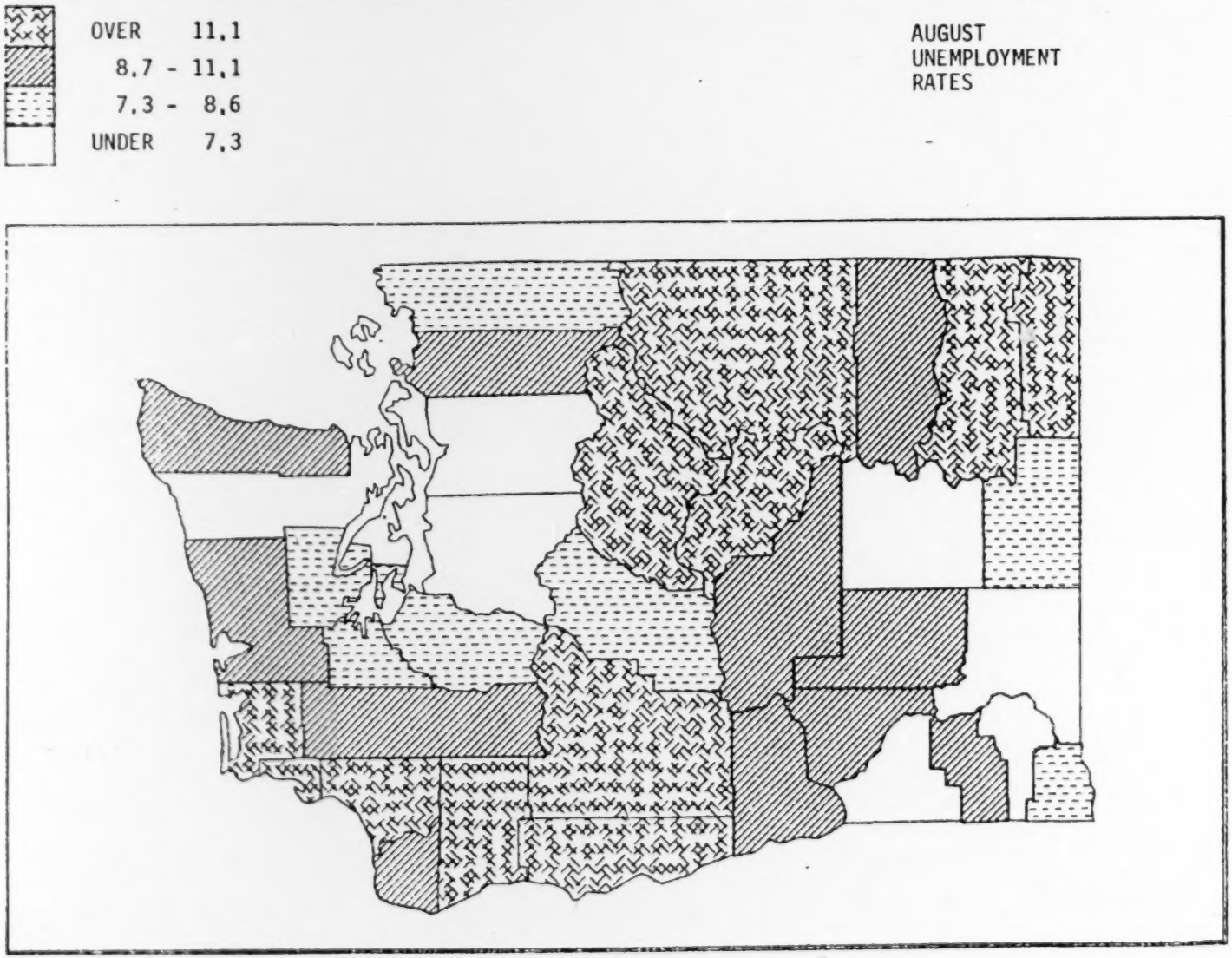
(Not Seasonally Adjusted)

	August 1985 Preliminary 1/				July 1985 Revised 1/			
	Labor Force	Employ-ment	Unemploy-ment	Unemp. Rate	Labor Force	Employ-ment	Unemploy-ment	Unemp. Rate
Washington State Total	2,088,000	1,937,000	151,000	7.2	2,108,400	1,942,100	166,300	7.9
Bellingham MSA	53,400	49,400	4,000	7.5	54,500	49,900	4,600	8.4
Bremerton MSA	65,100	61,500	3,600	5.5	64,900	61,000	3,900	6.0
Olympia MSA	60,400	56,100	4,300	7.1	61,400	56,400	5,000	8.1
Seattle PMSA	942,500	886,000	56,500	6.0	949,100	887,800	61,300	6.5
King County	740,400	697,000	43,400	5.9	745,400	698,400	47,000	6.3
Snohomish County	202,100	189,000	13,100	6.5	203,700	189,400	14,300	7.0
Spokane MSA	158,000	147,200	10,800	6.8	159,500	147,800	11,700	7.3
Tacoma PMSA	194,300	179,000	15,300	7.9	195,300	178,800	16,500	8.4
Tri-Cities MSA 2/	70,700	64,900	5,800	8.2	71,800	64,900	6,900	9.6
Vancouver PMSA	94,500	86,700	7,800	8.3	95,000	86,600	8,400	8.8
Yakima MSA	85,800	75,900	9,900	11.5	87,900	76,600	11,300	12.9
Adams	7,180	6,520	660	9.2	7,390	6,590	800	10.8
Asotin	7,970	7,410	560	7.0	7,990	7,430	560	7.0
Clallam	18,710	17,020	1,690	9.0	19,270	17,080	2,190	11.4
Columbia	1,970	1,800	170	8.6	2,250	2,050	200	8.9
Cowlitz	32,070	28,470	3,600	11.2	32,800	28,830	3,970	12.1
Ferry	2,540	2,290	250	9.8	2,640	2,330	310	11.7
Garfield	1,160	1,100	60	5.2	1,210	1,140	70	5.8
Grant	23,610	21,340	2,270	9.6	23,870	21,010	2,860	12.0
Grays Harbor	28,290	25,640	2,650	9.4	28,680	25,720	2,960	10.3
Island	16,930	15,890	1,040	6.1	16,950	15,740	1,210	7.1
Jefferson	6,780	6,320	460	6.8	6,810	6,270	540	7.9
Kittitas	10,450	9,700	750	7.2	10,150	9,260	890	8.8
Klickitat	6,920	6,190	730	10.5	6,540	5,670	870	13.3
Lewis	23,000	20,710	2,290	10.0	23,700	20,920	2,780	11.7
Lincoln	4,610	4,440	170	3.7	4,610	4,410	200	4.3
Mason	11,810	10,990	820	6.9	12,100	11,040	1,060	8.8
Okanogan	14,740	12,450	2,290	15.5	14,840	12,610	2,230	15.0
Pacific	6,740	5,870	870	12.9	6,760	5,880	880	13.0
Pend Oreille	4,010	3,480	530	13.2	4,070	3,490	580	14.3
San Juan	4,910	4,720	190	3.9	4,780	4,580	200	4.2
Skagit	35,260	32,130	3,130	8.9	37,600	34,120	3,480	9.3
Skamania	2,680	2,350	330	12.3	2,740	2,380	360	13.1
Stevens	11,590	10,360	1,230	10.6	11,640	10,350	1,290	11.1
Wahkiakum	1,180	1,050	130	11.0	1,200	1,070	130	10.8
Walla Walla	25,700	24,160	1,540	6.0	25,910	24,300	1,610	6.2
Wenatchee Labor Area 3/	38,070	33,830	4,240	11.1	38,000	33,940	4,060	10.7
Whitman	14,640	14,280	360	2.5	14,420	14,010	410	2.8

1/ Official U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics data. Data are not comparable with estimates made in previous years.
2/ Includes Benton and Franklin counties.
3/ Includes Chelan and Douglas counties.

Note: Detail may not add due to rounding.

Labor Market and Economic Analysis Branch


OVER 11.1
8.7 - 11.1
7.3 - 8.6
UNDER 7.3
AUGUST
UNEMPLOYMENT
RATES